

# HI-Q

## The LARC Journal

Volume 61

September 1995

Issue 607



### CLUB REPEATERS

#### VE3TBR

Phone: 807-767-7661

Listen: 146.820 MHz

Txmit: 146.220 MHz

#### VE3YQT

Phone: 807-767-5492

Listen: 147.060 MHz

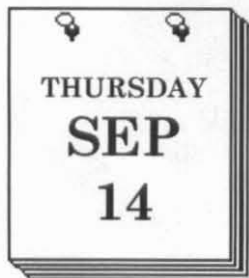
Txmit: 146.460 MHz

### WEEKLY BREAKFASTS

Saturdays 9:30 a.m.  
Blue Parrot Restaurant  
376 Lisgar Street  
(Off Memorial Av.)

**2M MINI-NET**  
Mondays 7:00 p.m.  
VE3YQT repeater.

### NEXT MEETING



7:00 p.m. Room 237  
McIntyre Building  
Confederation College

## SHORTWAVES

I can't believe just how fast this summer has gone by! The biggest summer event, for the club, was the 2 week visit by the Irkutsk ARC amateurs. I'm looking forward to the written submissions from all club members who met with them and their XYLs. Pat, VA3GD and Jim, VE3UA should be congratulated for the hard work and long hours that they put into getting the Irkutsk group here.

**FIRST, EVERYONE PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLUB HAS A NEW MAILING ADDRESS. SEE PAGE THREE.**

Second, don't forget that we *do* have VE3TBR for local QSOs and phone calls. Let's put the voice mail to good use on VE3TBR, too.

Third, the annual club dues are due again and the election of new executive officers will be held in September. Hint, hint.

*HI-Q* is always looking for submissions from club members. If you read, hear or see something or have a special interest, why not share it with the rest of the club? Do we have any AMSAT members? Has anyone been on exotic DXpeditions? Are there any packeteers out there? Six metre enthusiasts? And, where

are all the YL's points of view?

Personally, I feel that the club newsletter could be produced in an electronic magazine format and distributed via packet radio, the Internet and other local BBSs. Amateur radio clubs from around the world could exchange newsletters and information in this manner. Only those members who don't have a computer and modem should need a printed copy of *HI-Q*. Let's save a few trees for the next generation and a few dollars for this one. I'm trying out NeoBook™ Professional—it's fantastic! Sound, animation, full-colour graphics and GUI—it runs in DOS to boot! No Windows95™ or fancy hardware required!

I want to keep the club newsletter entertaining and informative. It requires a contribution from *everyone* who receives a copy. With voice mail on VE3TBR you can leave me mail messages anytime (i.d. # 159).

Now, what do *you* think?—Ed.

P.S. For all the Realistic 2m mobile HTX-212 owners. Yes, you can program and save out-of-band frequencies! Two can be stored using VFO A and B. Refer to the manual for instructions on how to program the VFOs.

*Tnx to 73 Magazine, July 1995 issue.*

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**Founding President**  
P.J. (Pat) O'Shea, VE3FW  
1881-1972

In honour of the memory of our founding president, Mr. P.J. (Pat) O'Shea, the club callsign is VE3FW.

**Senate**  
Bill Roberts, VE3ARN  
Keith Fiske, VE3JQ  
Bert Lambert, VE3BKY  
Ray Greer, VE3CH  
Hugh Elliott, VE3EDW  
Bill Klemacki, VE3AJ

#### Executive Board

**President:** Terry Stewardson, VE3TKA 577-9439  
**Vice Pres:** Ed Bauman, VE3SNW 622-1216  
**Secretary:** Norm Bell, VE3XRC 577-9316  
**Treasurer:** Skip Wright, VE3BBS 767-2307  
**Directors:** Garry Michaluk, VE3GWT 475-7101  
Glen Wallace, VE3ICY 623-0135  
Len Catillo, VE3KV 473-9430  
John Watson, VE3GTX 683-3199  
**Mem. Secretary:**  
John Watson, VE3GTX 683-3199  
**Past President:**  
Mark Vukovich, VE3VUK 345-5856  
**HI-Q Editor:**  
Robert Mazur, VA3ROM 344-7731

#### Voyageur Award

The LARC, in cooperation with the City of Thunder Bay, sponsors the *Thunder Bay Voyageur Award*. Anyone working or monitoring five Thunder Bay amateur stations qualifies. The award is an attractive 8.5" by 11" parchment scroll. Send your log copy with callsigns, dates, times, frequencies and \$2.00 to the club address below.

#### Club and Newsletter Information

*HI-Q* is published from September to June by The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Inc., (LARC) an Ontario registered, non-profit corporation. The opinions expressed or implied in *HI-Q* are those of the authors. The LARC assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information submitted. Material in *HI-Q* may be copied for non-profit use provided that credit is given to the source. Contributions related to amateur radio, especially those articles of interest to northwestern Ontario amateurs, are encouraged. Material can be submitted in WordPerfect® format or as a text file. Articles can be sent by fax to 807-345-2688 or packet to VA3ROM@VE3TKA.#NON.ON.CAN.NA or voice mail on the VE3TBR repeater to user 159. Send material or dated announcements no later than the 20th of the month in which it is to appear.

To reduce production and distribution costs advertising at the following per issue rates is accepted: Full-page—\$60.00, 1/2 page—\$40.00, 1/4 page—\$20.00 and 1/8 page—\$15.00. Reduced rates (1/3 off) are available upon receipt of advance payment for 10 issues (one full year). Send your ad copy and cheque (payable to the LARC) to the club address listed below. Advertising in *HI-Q* does not imply an endorsement or recommendation of the product or service by the LARC.

LARC membership fees are set for the year as follows: Regular—\$30.00, Associate—\$20.00, Associate (attending ham classes)—\$80.00, Students (attending school full-time)—\$15.00 and Family—\$30.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional family member at the same address. *HI-Q* is sent to all LARC members but only one copy is mailed to each address.

#### Mailing Address

The club mailing address is: The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Inc., Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Avenue, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 4A3, Canada.

## Radio Amateurs of Canada

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club is a member and supporter of Radio Amateurs of Canada, (RAC). Support and protect your hobby by joining today!

Contact John, VE3GTX (i.d. # 175) for the details.

## Everyone Talks About It...Great Lakes Weather

Thunder Bay Coast Guard Radio provides a marine NAVTEX service (FEC B protocol) on 518 kHz. The identification is "P" and broadcasts start at 0230 UTC and then at 4 hour intervals alternating between marine forecasts for the Great Lakes and Safety Notices to Shipping (NOTSHIPS). The transmitter site is located at Pass Lake, Ontario (48°33'46"N, 088°39'22"W) using a 58 metre loaded tower and 1 kW. The station also broadcasts marine and land weather for Lake Superior on 161.650 MHz (marine channel 21B) using a voice digitized continuous marine broadcast system (CMB) daily, year-round.

Atmospheric Environment Services broadcasts Weather Radio for the Thunder Bay area on 162.550 MHz daily, year-round.

Canadian Coast Guard weather facsimile service is available from Prescott Coast Guard Radio. It contains marine forecasts,

observations and ice charts/reports and prognosis charts for the Great Lakes. The weather package may be polled by calling VBR Prescott CGRS at 613-925-0666 and operating the POLL RECEIVE function on your facsimile machine.

U.S. Coast Guard facsimile weather charts are transmitted on 5898.60 kHz at 1330 EST and on 2195.50 kHz at 0130 EST. The United States Coast Guard makes live weather and other related broadcasts on 157.100 MHz (channel 22A) at regular intervals. Duluth Weather Radio is available continuously on 162.550 MHz. Some other Weather Radio frequencies used around the Great Lakes are 162.475 MHz and 162.400 MHz.

You can find out more about the other related marine services that are available free on request by calling the appropriate Coast Guard Radio on 156.800 MHz (channel 16) or via phone.—Ed.

## Great Lakes Traffic Net

The Great Lakes Emergency Traffic and Free Net meets every night at 0000 UTC on 3932 kHz. This net is for amateurs living around the Great Lakes region to exchange information and formal or informal traffic.

# Meeting Minutes by Norm, VE3XRC

*Minutes of a meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club held in Room 245 at Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario on June 8, 1995*

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the President VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson with 39 members and guests in attendance. The meeting started with a round-table of those in attendance introducing themselves. A newly licensed amateur, VA3WWA, Mike Jarzebinski and an old timer, VE3EEI, Matti Nummelin were recognized by the club members.

## **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held May 11, 1995 were published in detail in the June edition of *HI-Q* and mailed to all members. The secretary VE3XRC, Norm Bell pointed out a typing error in the financial report.

The balance shown in the Irkutsk fund should read \$1,058.00, not \$1,958.00. **Motion:** moved by VE3BHN, Bob Gillespie and seconded by VE3GTX, John Watson that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** VE3BBS, Skip Wright reported the annual 1994-1995 financial statement as of June 11, 1995 as follows:

### **Balance as of May 11, 1995:**

\$2,582.00

**Income:** 686.00

**Expenses:** 250.17

### **Balance as of June 8, 1995:**

\$3,018.29

**Note:** balance shown above includes \$1,258.00 in the Irkutsk fund.

**Motion:** moved by VE3GTX, John Watson and seconded by VE3RVA, Bob Hansen that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.

**Correspondence:** A letter from Dan Driscoll, VE3OTW thanking members of the club for their help when his car broke down.

A letter from the organizing committee of the Legion/Lakehead

University 10 Mile Road Race thanking the club for its help.

**President's Report:** It has been confirmed that four amateurs and 2 XYLs from Irkutsk will be arriving in Montreal on July 10, 1995. Jim O'Brien, VE3UA and Pat Doherty, VA3GD will pick them up in Montreal. On July 15th the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club will host a B-B-Q at the QTH of Pat Doherty, VA3GD starting at 2 p.m. There will be some other events for our guests and club members will be notified as details are finalized.

A transmitter Fox Hunt is scheduled for Thursday June 15th at 7 p.m. starting at Con College.

Terry introduced Steve Tanguay, Navel Training Officer with the Navy league of Canada who has some cadets that are working towards their communicators badge. Steve is looking for some volunteers to help teach Morse code in September on Thursday nights.

**Old Business:** The LARC received \$300.00 in rental fees from the Nordics for the use of a 2-10-C4 antenna. The antenna was donated by VE3EMI, John Kaleta and was installed on top of the 120m ski jump by VE3BBS, Skip Wright and VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson.

**Motion:** moved by VE3BBS, Skip Wright and seconded by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki that the \$300.00 received from the Nordics be placed in the Irkutsk fund. Carried.

VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki brought

to the attention of the club members an article in the latest edition of the TCA magazine where the Barry Hunter Memorial Award had been attributed to the London Amateur Radio Club.

VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki brought us back to the subject of antennas. Many were not aware that antenna season had been officially closed on May 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. via the airwaves of VE3YQT. Bill reminded those in attendance of the above but proclaimed a special compensation for work of VE3TBR and the link to Grand Marais. He then blew the trumpet again to make sure that antenna season was closed.

**New Business:** VE3UA, Jim O'Brien issued a request. He is trying to match up names and call signs from old members. If you have or know of any ancient call books or membership lists, Jim would like to see them.

**Election of Club Officers:** the club is looking for a volunteer to act as nominating committee chairman in September.

**Adjournment:** moved by VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki that the meeting be adjourned.

**50/50 Draw:** winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3BBS, Skip Wright.

Following a short break, a demonstration on how to use the various functions of VE3TBR was presented by VE3GTX, John Watson. Speed dial sheets and instruction manuals were distributed.

## Moving? HI-Q Submissions?

Send your change of address or submissions to:

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Avenue  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 4A3



# Repeater Etiquette by Ed, VE3SNW

Welcome to the Thunder Bay Repeater community! With classes over there are new callsigns on the air and we are glad to have you online. Like any "society" certain norms have evolved over the years and some of these quirks you may be unaware of. In order to correct this I hereby present: *VE3SNW's Bible of Repeater Etiquette*.

1) Listen first! This will accomplish many things. You will pick up on our quirks and learn a few things about us and you won't bust into someone's QSO or emergency in progress.

2) Push the PTT button first, *then* speak. The first couple of times on the air are pretty exciting. It's common for newbies to talk and hit the switch at the same time. The result is that we hear about half of what you wanted to say. Now, let go of the PTT so you can hear just how eloquent I really can be.

3) Pause between groups of speech and wait for the courtesy beep. When you tail-end your buddy on the air, people who need to break in with emergency or urgent traffic can't. If you have been talking for a long time, ask if anyone requires the repeater. Note: Skip, VE3BBS is the Amateur Radio Emergency Service Coordinator (ARES) and is the one to contact if the ARES net requires activation. Or, he will announce an emergency and activate the net. In which case go to rule one. Contact Skip about details of ARES.

4) Identify with your *whole* call sign. This is the law (check RIC 25 if you don't believe me). It's also a bad habit to get into and really irritates the DX stations on HF.

5) Ye Olde Phone Patch and other Repeater Esoterica. Listen first. Identify before calling and during the phone call, if the other party puts the phone down for a second and on completion. This also goes for using the message functions and testing. If you are testing or just learning how to use the toys, er functions, say so.

If you are playing, I mean testing, listen and identify. Pause occasionally in case someone needs the repeater. Pick an off-time to try out the functions. Ten minutes before lunch is not a good time to test the DTMF tones on your microphone.

If you are on the patch, make it clear to the person on the other end of the phone line that you are using amateur radio and a gazillion other people are listening. Don't use the patch if there is a regular phone available.

*Business calls are not permitted under any circumstances.* Don't be shy about dumping the patch if the person you are talking to becomes rude or abusive. If you don't, someone else probably will! Foul language is not permitted over the air.

6) The use of the word "break" to interrupt a QSO in progress is reserved for *emergency or urgent situations only* and its use as a general interrupt is not appropriate. This and other carryovers from C.B. radio will label you as a *lid* (inept radio operator) by the older operators. They are the ones who paid for and assembled the repeaters, so humour them!

7) Be courteous and helpful. If someone needs the repeater briefly, relinquish it. If someone needs help or information do your best to help. If you hear help in progress, stay quiet unless you can add something truly useful. If you are called and can't help, do your best to hand them off to someone who can or at least direct them to where they can find the info they are looking for.

8) Be polite and don't criticize over the air. Snide comments will label you. Be careful what you say unless you enjoy listening to weird rumours about yourself.

9) We do have more than one repeater. VE3TBR is on 146.82(-)

and is usually very quiet and in town coverage is pretty good even with handhelds. Or, try simplex; there is no law that says you must always use a repeater on VHF.

10) Expand your horizons. Discover new modes of operation (EME, Meteor Scatter, Packet, RTTY, CW) Amateur Radio has much to offer, don't deprive yourself by just sitting on the repeaters.

11) If you use your radio as a scanner, *do not program the offsets or PL tones* for non-amateur frequencies, just in case you key up on the wrong memory channel. Businesses and Police agencies pay a lot of money for their licences and take them very seriously. Your presence will not be a source of amusement to either them or Industry Canada.

12) Use the amateur frequencies to report emergencies. With the phone patch there should be no reason to unlawfully transmit on a business or police/ambulance frequency. If circumstances dictate the unlawful use of a commercial frequency, the thought in the back of your mind should be "How am I going to explain this to the judge?"

13) Ask questions. We weren't all born rocket scientists (except VE3BCD). We all learned just like you are now. A simple question is a lot better than an expensive mistake.

14) Club repeaters are open to all amateurs. They are, however, expensive and complex. If you use them I think that there is a moral obligation to support their development by paying club dues, donating to the funds and volunteering for club or ARES events. With freedom, comes responsibility.

15) To some, Amateur Radio is a hobby, to others it's a calling and others a vocation. Be tolerant and forgiving. Not everyone on the repeater will be as well behaved and intelligent as you and I!

# Camp 807—An XYL's Prospective by Linda, VE3XLB

Everyone has heard of Camp 807. During June and July, each year, the men start inquiring about where it is going to be held and in some cases making plans to attend. Women, you may be asking yourself the same thing that I asked Norman a few years ago, when we attended our first camp—"What do the women do?" Well, I thought that I would give you my prospective of it.

This year, it was held at a private campground, in Fort Francis, from August 4th to the 6th. We started out at 1 p.m. on Friday and arrived 4 hours later. As we came down a hill, we saw a campground sign and Norman thought that it was the place. As we passed the sign we saw a lot of vehicles with antennas. A sure sign that it was the right place! We checked into our hotel on the other side of town and had supper. Afterwards, we went back to the campground to see who was there. Some people only came for Saturday.

Now for the question—What do the women do? The same as the men—mingle! Mingling with people that I don't know is not one of my strong points but everyone was so friendly. They made you feel right at home and included you in. I met some that had checked into the northwestern Ontario Net with me on Tuesdays, so I can now put faces to the callsigns. It's great meeting

people in person whom you have talked to on the air. They refer to Annabelle, VE3XAW and myself as the "Velvet Tones of Thunder Bay." I saw a few women sitting at a campsite and recognized a couple of them. So, I went over and introduced myself to them. Not long after, Norman and some of the other men went to the next campsite and talked about whatever it is men that talk about at a hamfest. The women went to a dining tent and talked about a variety of things. Only one of them wasn't a ham! The next thing I knew, Norman came over and said that it was 10:30 p.m. and that we had better head for the hotel.

Saturday morning, after breakfast, we headed back to the campground. A lot of people had just arrived and were setting up tables to display their items for sale. You see, they bring their "junk" to sell so they can buy someone else's "junk." I walked around with Norman for awhile looking at the "stuff" on display at the different tables. I then went on to find some of the women.

At noon, a group of us left to take in an airshow at the Fort Francis airport. Norman and I found a shady spot and setup our lawn chairs. Before the airshow began, the operators of remote controlled

aircraft put on quite a demonstration. The airshow was super, too! When it was over, we headed back to the campground for supper. Barbeques and tables were set in a field by the campsites and the barbeques were starting to heat up. You've probably heard Norman talking about the steaks they cooked. Without exaggeration, you needed two plates. One for the steak and another for the baked potato, bun, vegetables, variety of salads and desserts that the Fort Francis women prepared.

After supper, while everyone was sitting around, some of the "junk" that was not sold at the hamfest was auctioned off ala Woody, VE3JJA style. It is something that you have to experience to believe! We stayed for awhile longer and then went back to the hotel.

On Sunday morning, we went back to the campground for coffee and donuts (what else!) said our good-byes to our old and new friends and headed back to Thunder Bay. Another hamfest was over and plans were being made for next year. It would be nice to have a larger representation from Thunder Bay. Why not plan to keep the long weekend of August free for next year and attend Camp 807? Bring your XYLs or OMs along. I'm sure that they will enjoy it as much as I did!

## Odds 'n Ends

### CFB Calgary Special Event Station

On Armed Forces Day, September 17th, a special event station will be set up at CFB Calgary. The callsign is CF6AFD. Operations will be on HF, VHF and UHF bands. QSL to VE6SRC.

### Scouting DX Net

The "Scouting Around the World" DX Net is held Saturdays on 1.995 MHz. Net control is VE8CQ. The Net starts on October 7th.

### RAC VHF Contest

The RAC VHF Sprint will be held during the 4th weekend of September. This is a 2 metre contest, FM and SSB. Details to come as they are released in TCA.

### Thunder Bay on 440

Thunder Bay stations were heard through the VE6KQ repeater 444.750/449.750 MHz this summer. This is a UHF repeater with a 6 meter radio attached. The Thunder Bay stations were on 6m, 52.525 MHz simplex and their signals were retransmitted on 444.750 MHz. This was a "sporadic E" opening. (Was it DVE or DPB?—Ed.)

*Thx to Alberta Amateur Radio News, Edition 21.*

## RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA

is pleased to announce the  
following award available to all  
Radio Amateurs worldwide.

### CANADAWARD

A certificate will be issued to any amateur who confirms two-way QSOs with Canadian Amateur stations located in each of the Canadian Provinces and Territories. All QSOs must be on one band only. Separate awards will be issued for each band and mode on which the applicant qualifies (12 cards are required for each band and mode.)

**DO NOT SEND QSL CARDS.  
HAVE THEM CERTIFIED BY  
TWO OTHER AMATEURS USING  
THE APPLICATION FORM  
AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST  
WITH A SASE TO AWARDS  
MANAGER OR R.A.C.)**

Cards must be in the possession of the applicant. Only contacts made after July 1, 1977 will count for this award. Send application form with fee of \$5.00 Canadian for Canadian stations (U.S. dollars for stations outside Canada.) (Prices subject to change.) Cards must be in the possession of the application. All cards are subject to random checks.

### 5 BAND CANADAWARD

A special engraved plaque is available to any amateur who confirms two-way QSOs with Canadian Provinces and Territories on each of five (5) separate bands. (Total of sixty (60) cards. Twelve (12) cards per band. See list.)

Only contacts made after July 1, 1977 will count for this award. Submit applications certified by two other amateurs with \$40.00 Canadian for Canadian stations (U.S. dollars for stations outside Canada.) (Prices subject to change.) Cards must be in the possession of the applicant. All cards are subject to random checks.

### Canadian Provinces and Territories

VO1-VO2	Newfoundland-Labrador
VE1	Nova Scotia
VE1-VE9	New Brunswick
VE2	Quebec
VE3	Ontario
VE4	Manitoba
VE5	Saskatchewan
VE6	Alberta
VE7	British Columbia
VE8	Northwest Territories
VY1	Yukon
VY2-VE1	Prince Edward Island

All amateur bands may be used. Each distinct satellite mode will count as a separate band.

Note: VO2, Labrador is part of the Province of Newfoundland and counts for Newfoundland. Some Canadian stations may be using different prefixes. Applications should note that the award is base on the Province or Territory of residence of the QSL card, not the prefix.

Mail applications for CanadAward to:

Russ A. Wilson, VE6VK  
1235 Richland Road N.E.  
Calgary, AB T2E 5M5  
Canada

*Tnx to Calgary ARC, June newsletter.*

